

AN AGGRESSIVE
R. R. COMMISSION.A Reduction in Telephone Rates
Ordered—Investigation of Af-
fairs of the Southern
Railway.

ADJUDGED IN CONTEMPT

For Refusing to Answer Questions and
Comply With the Commissioners' Order.
—The Council for the Railroad Dictates
the Answers put to Witnesses—The Com-
mission Will Continue the Investigation
tomorrow.The Railroad Commission held a two-
day's session last week. It proved very
interesting, and it looked at one time
as if some railroad officials and em-
ployees were to get into serious trou-
ble.Friday, the first day's session, the
Commission investigated charges of
discrimination in freight charges
against certain shippers of the Southern
Railway.The Commission then took up tele-
phone rates and adopted the following
schedule, to take effect Feb. 1, 1898.Place of business. Per year.
Special wire, \$30.00
2 and 3 party wire (each), 20.00
4 and 5 party wire (each), 18.00For residence. Per year.
Special wire, \$18.00
2 and 3 party wire (each), 10.00
4 and 5 party wire (each), 14.00This tariff does not apply to service
rendered outside the corporate limits
of any city or town in this State.
On this resolution Messrs. Caldwell
and Pearson voted in the affirmative,
Mr. Abbott voted in the negative, giv-
ing as his reason for so doing the fol-
lowing: "I vote against taking up the
telephone rate question again, because
I have been advised by the Attorney
General and by private counsel that
the Railroad Commission has no juris-
diction over telephone exchanges."After transacting some further busi-
ness of minor importance, the Commis-
sion commenced an investigation
of a charge against the Southern Rail-
way, that it had given Mr. W. H. Wil-
son, a special freight agent, special
freight rates when shipping
freight to Round Knob last summer.
Mr. Munson, division freight agent,
and Mr. Potts, local freight agent of
the Southern, were summoned to ap-
pear before the Commission and bring
the books, papers, memoranda or writ-
ings thereof in their possession for ex-
amination. Mr. Munson did not bring
any records and also refused to an-
swer any question put to him by the
Commission in reference to this matter.The Sheriff, in whose hands the sum-
mons was placed to be executed, could
not find Mr. Potts, and it was supposed
that he endeavored to keep out of the
case as much as possible to escape being
summoned.The Commission suspected some-
thing of this kind, and in view of the
fact that Mr. Munson gave a witness
to consult counsel, Mr. Pearson moved
that the hearing be postponed until 10
o'clock Saturday, and that in the mean-
time the Sheriff be directed to make
further effort to summon Mr. Potts.In announcing this motion carried,
Chairman Caldwell said: "It is my duty
for Mr. Munson to state to you that the
Commission has an intimation that you
have been instrumental in causing Mr.
Potts to leave the city after you had
knowledge of the process directed to
you and Mr. Potts to appear before the
Commission at four o'clock this evening.
And I am very far from being in-
causing his absence, it will be to your
interest to have him here at 10 o'clock
Saturday morning."

SATURDAY PROCEEDINGS.

The Railway Commission had Col. A.
B. Andrews and Mr. H. W. Miller sum-
moned to appear before the Board and
exhibit records and books as to the
issuance of free passes by the Southern
past, Col. Andrews and Mr. Miller
appeared before the Commission at 10
o'clock, the appointed hour for the ex-
amination. They brought with them
books, records, stubs or information
as to the issuance of free passes by the
Southern, and respectfully declined to
make public the information desired
when put on the witness stand. On
this the Chairman judged both Col.
Andrews and Mr. Miller to be in viola-
tion of the Commission. After some
preliminary remarks between the
Commission and Mr. Busbee, attorney
for the Southern, Mr. Caldwell put
the following question:"Mr. Munson state what knowledge
or information you have touching the
rate allowed Mr. Wilson upon his
shipment to Round Knob."A. I respectfully decline to answer
the question, because my answer
might tend to incriminate me, or re-
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from which evidence of the commis-
sion of an act, or my connection with
an act, which the Commission believe
to be unlawful, may be obtained.Chairman Caldwell: This is not a
matter in which you are incriminated.
Not a matter in which you are per-
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ployee of the Southern. This is not a
case in which you can shelter your-
self behind the "right of privacy" of
the Chairman of this Board says,
for one, that if the Commission sus-
tains its ruling you must answer.
Mr. F. H. Busbee objected to the ex-
amination on the ground that the ex-
amination of this evidence as the Com-
mission was seeking from Mr. Munson
might show a violation of section 1
of the Railroad Commission Act, which
provides that if any railroad shall di-
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greater or less compensation for any
service rendered in the transportation
of passengers or property than it charges
another for doing a like service, under
substantially similar circumstances,
such railroad shall be deemed guilty of
unjust discrimination, and shall be
upon conviction, fined not less than
\$1,000 nor more than \$5,000 for each
and every offense.Under this provision of law the ad-
mission of Mr. Munson's evidence would
show, Mr. Busbee thought, a viola-
tion of the fifth amendment to the
Constitution of the United States, which
declares that "no person shall be
compelled in any criminal case to be a
witness against himself."The meaning of this constitutional
provision, Mr. Busbee explained, is not
merely that a person shall not be com-
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in a criminal case, but that he shall
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United States Supreme Court has given
this construction to this constitutional
provision. In doing so, the court saysthat it is a reasonable construction
of the provision that the witness be
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commission may be obtained and used
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the Southern Railway Company is not
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It is possible that Mr. Munson's evi-
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purpose of showing a violation of sec-
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rates, or as showing that the Southern
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the purpose of discriminating in rates.
And in either case the witness cannot
shelter himself behind the constitutional
provision against incriminating himself.
He is only an agent, and he against
the principal that an action must lie
for any violation of the law."Mr. Busbee: "I wish to ask another
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He was held in contempt.Mr. Henry W. Miller, Private Sec-
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to state what knowledge he had of any
free passes or dead-head tickets being
issued and given by the Southern Rail-
way Company to individuals for the
years 1895, 1896 and 1897.Mr. Miller declined to answer, giving
exactly the same reply as did Mr. Mun-
son in the first question asked him.Chairman Caldwell: "Mr. Andrews, Vice-Pres-
ident of the Southern, division freight agent
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examined relative to the issuance of
free passes."Chairman Caldwell then directed to Col-
onel Andrews by Chairman Caldwell was
State whether or not there is a record
kept in your office of the number
of passes and to whom issued by your
Company for the past three years.Col. Andrews: There is a record of
most of them, yes.Q. Do you know the record?
A. I do not know.Q. At the end of the year
it is generally sent to Washington.
There often destroyed.Further cross questioning failed to
produce any material information to
the Commission. Col. Andrews was
finally resorting to the answer given
by Mr. Munson as above printed.Chairman Caldwell then announced
that Col. Andrews would come under
the ruling concerning the first witness,
so Col. Andrews was adjudged in
contempt of court.Mr. Pearson stated to Col. Andrews
that similar action had been taken
against other railroads for the issuance
of passes and to whom issued, and
that the Commission had no hostility
towards the Southern, and that he did not
want to appear that there was any dis-
crimination.Mr. Potts was then examined, but
like the other gentleman either evaded
or refused to answer questions prop-
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NORTH CAROLINA R. R. LEASE.

Case Before Mr. Craig Postponed Until
the Other Evidence is Heard.CHARLOTTE, N. C., January 7.—A
special from Salisbury, N. C., to the
Observer says: No testimony was
heard before Special-Master Craig in
the lease case today. The attorneys
for the plaintiffs had expected to ex-
amine Colonel A. B. Andrews, first
vice-president of the Southern Rail-
road, this morning, but after consulta-
tion to-day they agreed to an adjourn-
ment of the court until next Wed-
nesday, the 12th instant, when the
plaintiffs, the Southern Railway, the
Central Trust Company, and the old
Board of Directors of the North Caro-
lina railroad, will continue the giving
of the evidence they may have to
offer as to the charge of fraud.I am informed by counsel for the
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THE CAUCASIAN

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We earnestly ask each Subscriber to look at the label on his paper, and if the date is behind the date of this issue, 13th JANUARY 1898, to send us \$1.00 and get the date moved up for another year. We cannot continue subscriptions that have expired. Please attend to this at once.

THE OVERSEER'S CONTENT.

The new Railroad Commissioners have begun well, and if "the judiciary is not exhausted," will doubtless in due time present to the people sworn testimony giving the inside facts and workings of some gigantic corporations in this State.

These organizations have amassed fortunes, collected and robbed from the tax-payer and the toiler. The people and the courts are entitled to know the means by which they have accumulated these ill-gotten gains and definite information as to their methods of handling men and manipulating legislatures and Judges and Senators and Governors and Railroad Commissioners, so as to secure favorable judgments and favorable legislation. The people are demanding these things and they will have them. We dare say that the investigations concerning the transactions of 1898-99 would prove time in comparison to some of later date with the experience of thirty years and the additional horde of trained lawyers, "professional" witnesses and hired newspaper correspondents.

Last week was witnessed a most extraordinary scene in North Carolina. Col. Andrews, the overseer, and Miller, Munson and Potts, other agents of the foreign bondholders and oppressors of the people, were subpoenaed to appear as witnesses before the Railroad Commission and produce the books and papers of the corporation which they serve, in order to give the Commission information as to discriminations in freight rates and passenger fares.

Their answers elsewhere printed are not only a contempt of the court, but also to the people of the State. To conceal their plans and plots to tamper with public servants is to strike at the foundation of popular government and free institutions. There is a constitutional inhibition against secret political organizations, but there seems to be no check to the schemes and machinations of those who have banded themselves together for the purpose of public plunder. The time has come when the State must be supreme or the corporations must rule and enslave the people.

Whatever may be the legal technicalities which the law-makers have improvised to shield the criminal, the moral fact remains that the reply of these men, "I REFUSE TO ANSWER FOR FEARS THAT I MAY CRIMINATE MYSELF," is the boldest confession of guilt.

Andrews, himself a hired man and hired to shield his masters, and the other hirelings of this foreign corporation knew the information which they refused to give. Their motives in trying to conceal this information from the courts and the public are not far to seek. They knew that if the proper authorities got possession of the facts in the form of sworn evidence from them, that the corporations which feed and clothe them and hire attorneys to put answers in their mouths would be convicted for their avortism in the courts. They knew that if they furnished this evidence the places which know them now would soon know them no more forever.

They have served their masters, and shown their insolence and contempt for authority as heretofore; but if caught of power and virtue remains in the arm of the State, these men should be made to purge themselves of their contempt for the courts and the people. They should be made to know that the day has passed when a railroad magnate or any other corporationist can say with impunity, "The people be damned."

THEY "ANT HARMONY."

The Committee of the Nashville conference recently held a meeting at which they passed a set of resolutions, and then called another meeting for January 12th announcing that the purpose of that meeting was to call a national convention representing their faction for April of this year to nominate Presidential candidates for 1900. They also passed a resolution announcing that the national committee of the Peoples Party might meet in St. Louis on the same day and see this crazy, not to say reasonable, action taken by a faction of the party. At once the instigators of this movement began to announce through the public press that the national committee had been "invited to meet with them for the purpose of harmony. This statement was absurd on its face, if they meant what they said in their resolutions about nominating a Presidential candidate of their own in 1898, for the campaign of 1900. Besides they took care not to communicate with the chairman of the national committee requesting a meeting of the committee or even informing the official organization of their action. On January 3rd, however, Mr. Parks, the chairman of this Nashville committee, wired to the national chairman that he and those associated with him wanted a meeting of the national committee in St. Louis on January 12th. Chairman Butler promptly replied by telegram,

and also followed the telegram with a letter saying that he would not take the responsibility of calling a meeting of the national committee without first submitting the question and the purpose for which the meeting was desired to the full committee by referendum vote as provided for in the plan of organization of the party; and that besides the Nashville committee, and those associated with them, must express their willingness to abide by the action of the committee if it should assemble to pass upon the questions raised. He called attention to the fact that if all of those who held different opinions as to the policy of the party would go before a meeting of the National Committee and submit their propositions and then abide by the official determination of the committee, that that, and that alone, would secure harmony, and that those who did not do so clearly did not want harmony, and were already in the position of bolters. Chairman Butler went further and announced that he would urge as early a meeting of the committee as possible if this proposition was satisfactory. This position taken by the chairman will test the sincerity of the Nashville committee. Their action in response to this eminently fair and just position will be awaited with interest.

SCANDAL MONGERS.

Once or twice during the past two years, attention has been directed to the fact that the Legislature of 1895 have found it necessary, in the interest of the State, to officially declare the Democratic press of North Carolina to be a collective calumniator and liar. The fact was quite well known to the people living within State lines, and therefore the action was taken to simply advise people living in other States who might happen to read that press that it was false, fraudulent and malicious in its course.

This action of the Legislature was amply justified at the time (1895) and since that time this same Democratic press has pursued such a course as can only give emphasis to what the Legislature declared. There was some hope and some little expectation that the election of 1896, by which the followers of this mass of dirty documents called the Democratic press were defeated by forty thousand majority, would indicate to them the necessity of trying to act with some decency and sense. The "indication" was emphatic enough, but it failed because of an absolute absence of capacity on the part of the Democratic sheets to understand what is meant by decency and sense. If possible, they have grown more false and filthy than ever. The only apparent effort made by them is to lie about something or to try to distort into rascality and crime a simple occurrence which might happen at any time with anybody. An instance of their effort to lie about somebody can be easily settled in the incident of Senator Butler's Rocky Mount speech. The charge hatched up and started at that point has been denounced as untrue and malicious by more men of character than could be found in the State to testify to any decency shown by the Democrats press.

Another instance of an attempted lie and a most malevolent and villainous distortion of facts is printed on the first page of this issue. The champion scandal monger and filth-spewer old as usual, and made a great fanfare over nothing. It was an attempt to besmirch and stain the character of a man whose official books showed a little error which was not of personal advantage to himself. The sum of \$300 in favor of the public fund was magnified into a discrepancy of five hundred dollars against that fund.

Read the parallel reports in the central columns of the first page, and then decide for yourself as to whether there is a bigger liar extant that the slanderous and rascally sheet that put out the report. This kind of thing is going on all the time in the dirty Democratic press, and from the nature of that gang it will continue to go on.

A CARD OF THANKS.

For the past three weeks THE CAUCASIAN's subscription list has been materially increased. A great number of our subscribers, when sending in their renewals, have also sent in one or more new names. To all we desire to express our thanks, and hope THE CAUCASIAN will continue to meet with their approval. A number of our readers' subscription expires this month. We would ask these when sending in their renewals to please send along one new subscriber, thereby not only helping the paper, but doing something for the cause. To any one sending in five names and five dollars we will give the sender one year's subscription to "The New Time," the leading reform magazine in America.

A timely and interesting letter from National Committeeman Wilcox, of New Jersey, on the so-called "middle-of-the-roaders" convention, to be held on the 12th inst. at St. Louis, appears on the front page of this issue. Mr. Wilcox, like the great majority of the members of the National Committee and the Peoples Party does not see either wisdom or policy in the movement, but on the contrary thinks it is only gotten up by a few disgruntled members to create discord and to help further selfish ambition, if not directly in the pay of the corporationists.

The new members of the Railroad Commission have begun an active crusade against the free pass business. It may result in some one being "free passed" to jail.

The News and Observer was hit rather hard by its esteemed Democratic evening contemporary, The Press-Visitor, last week.

We desire our readers to be sure to read the parallel article on the first page headed, "Just Read This—Then Read This."

It is a delight to read THE NEW TIME. This magazine is waging splendid warfare against plutocracy and is entitled to the hearty support of the people. Forward us \$1 and we will send you a subscription. Better yet, send \$1.75 and receive THE NEW TIME and THE CAUCASIAN for one year.

"A DELUGE OF POLITICAL BILLINGS-GATE"

"Which is Becoming Disgusting to All Decent and Fair-Minded Men."

Truckers and Planters Journal.] We think the Democratic press of the State has now gone to the limit in its effort to malign Senator Butler on account of the statements attributed to him in his Rocky Mount speech. His denials made through THE CAUCASIAN are complete, and every fair-minded man will accept them. We don't believe Senator Butler used the language in the form attributed to him, and we don't believe the Democratic press of the State believes he is capable of such language. The attack is simply a deluge of political billingsgate, which is becoming very disgusting to all decent people.

BABY'S SMOOTH, FAIR SKIN

A Grateful Mother Writes this Letter— Tells all about Her Troubles when Baby Broke out with Scrofula Sores.

"At the age of two months, my baby began to have sores break out on his right cheek. We used all the external applications that we could think of or hear of, to no avail. The sores spread all over one side of his face. We consulted a physician and tried his medicine, and in a week the sores were gone. But to my surprise in two weeks more another scrofula looking sore appeared on baby's arm. It grew worse and worse, and when he was three months old, I began giving him Hood's Sarsaparilla. I also took Hood's Sarsaparilla, and before the first bottle was finished, the sores were well and have never returned. He is now four years old, but he has never had any sign of those scrofula sores since he was cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, for which I feel very grateful. My boy owes his good health and smooth, fair skin to this great medicine." Mrs. S. S. WOOTEN, Farmington, Delaware. Get only Hood's.

Hood's Pills are prompt, efficient and easy to take. 25 cents.

SACRIFICE AND COURAGE.

Bryan Wants Democratic Populists and Silver Republicans to Unite.

Chicago, Jan. 10.—W. J. Bryan, in concluding a speech before the Bryan League at the Tremont House during a banquet held after the Auditorium meeting early this morning, made some remarks which are interpreted as showing his intentions if he is nominated for President in 1896. In speaking of the next Presidential election, Mr. Bryan said: "It may be we will be strong enough to win without any outside help. But nevertheless I prefer to win with the Populists on one side and the free silver Republicans on the other. And we must not forget the victory is won that in the campaign of last year it took more courage on the part of the free silver Republicans to desert their old party and more self-sacrifice on the part of the Populists to go outside of their organization for a Presidential candidate, because he agreed with them on the platform issue than it did for the Democrats to support the ticket which was nominated by their own national convention."

Lynchites.

Mayor Wright, after consulting several ministers of the gospel and the police of the city, ordered the police to arrest any Lynchites who attempt to preach their doctrines, either in public or private meetings, in this city. The action was taken when it was stated that that unwelcome gang intended to visit Wilmington.

South Dakota Follows North Carolina.

The Populists of South Dakota are making a combined effort to fight the railroads in their exorbitant freight rates. Gov. Lee has given \$1,000 to assist in the prosecution. South Dakota is warming up to look out for results. The Populists are beginning to locate themselves since their legislative entanglements last year.

McBryer Not in It.

Raleigh Times.] A Republican Monday, who had heard from Washington, says that the Postmaster General has informed Congressmen Linney that he cannot appoint John C. McBryer as postmaster at Shelby, because of the affidavits reflecting upon his character. Linney says that McBryer is a man of honor and fortune he was fighting him. It looks like fortune favors Fortune.

The Goldbug Who Wrote That Silver is Address.

The Winston Republican says that a country Democrat asked who is General Winston who drew up those resolutions at the meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee. When told that he was a renegade Republican and voted for Cleveland, he sighed and said, "if a radical writes the Democratic platform I'll be damned if I will vote the ticket."

Fighting Plutocracy.

The New Time in its January number sends the keynote of the opposition to the current money power. McKinley and Secretary Gage. This able magazine is now the recognized leader in the fight against the money power. "The Wolcott Commission and Its Result" is the subject discussed by Charles A. Towne, the brilliant chairman of the Silver Republican National Committee. He handles Comptroller Eckels without gloves, and charges him with dense ignorance on the subject under discussion. Mr. Towne accuses the Republican party leaders with despicable duplicity and with the betrayal of solemn pledges. The menace of "Plutocracy" is discussed by Congressman M. W. Howland of Alabama. Among the famous contributors to this splendid number are Prof. W. H. H. Lecky, of the English Parliament; Congressman D. B. Henderson, of Iowa; Congressman John C. Bradshaw, who treats of "Single Tax and Labor;" John W. Reid, of Idaho; Senator Marion Butler, of New York; Congressman C. F. Hale, of Michigan; and Congressman W. M. Stewart, of Frank Parsons and others, of the best writers and thinkers of the country.

Twenty-five illustrations, including several striking cartoons, are scattered through the pages of the January New Time. This magazine has passed the 50,000 mark, and is a power to be reckoned with. Chicago has at last a magazine of the first class, worth of goods but in the others not much was taken as nothing of value could be found.

It seems that the cotton mills are bound to come South, where the cotton fields are, as it is appearing now more and more clearly every day.

A TREATISE ON SOILS.

INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS OF AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.—FACTS THAT ASTOUND SCIENTISTS.

Investigations Going on Which Will Prove of Great Economic and Practical Value and Enable Farmers to Know With Precision to What the Soil Under Cultivation is Best Adapted.—Familiarities for Which No Explanation Has Been Found [Washington Post.]

The divisions of soils of the Agricultural Department, which was established a couple of years ago, is conducting some of the most interesting experiments of the department. Prof. Milton Whitney, who is in charge of the division, is engaged at present in the investigation of the climatic conditions of moisture and temperature in their relation to the local distribution of crops. The work has a scope as broad as the country. It will eventually embrace all the soils and staple crops, and in its relation to the future of the country, when crops must be produced under the intensified system of agriculture, which must come to our farmers in a few years, it promises to be of the utmost economic and practical value. Its practical utility will be the determination of the normal water contents of the different soils in various portions of the country, their capacity for the absorption and retention of moisture with the amount of moisture required by different crops, together with methods for ascertaining the point where lack of moisture would endanger crops and the most feasible methods of irrigation. Thus far the investigation has covered only truck soils in the East, tobacco soils, and an investigation of Western soils.

Some marvelous results have already been obtained. It has been ascertained, for instance, in the matter of tobacco growing that tobacco wraps which are grown on the light soils of Connecticut, require but 7 per cent of moisture, while the heavy soils of Pennsylvania and Ohio, require 20 per cent. The investigation of the soil in the matter of tobacco growing that tobacco wraps which are grown on the light soils of Connecticut, require but 7 per cent of moisture, while the heavy soils of Pennsylvania and Ohio, require 20 per cent. The investigation of the soil in the matter of tobacco growing that tobacco wraps which are grown on the light soils of Connecticut, require but 7 per cent of moisture, while the heavy soils of Pennsylvania and Ohio, require 20 per cent.

The Greater New York.

New York Telegram.] For six months, until the machinery of the new municipality gets into motion, the Mayor of New York has the power of an autocrat. He may appoint officials with salaries running into the thousands with as lavish a hand as ever emperor treated his favorites.

The Mayor will appoint every department head in the city, except the Controller, who is elected for four years. He will appoint all commissioners, all justices of inferior criminal courts, all the members of the school boards, with the exception of the Commissioner of Education, and the justices of Special sessions, and the police magistrates, and is given the power to remove any official in New York and appoint his successor.

There are five boroughs in the Greater New York—namely, Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, and Richmond. The Municipal Legislature consists of the Council, with twenty-eight members, and a board of aldermen of sixty members. The President of the Council was elected by the people. The President of the Board of Aldermen will be chosen by the members of that body.

Mayor Van Wyck is given power to veto any ordinance or resolution of either body of the municipal assembly unless five sixths of the members of both houses declare otherwise.

Each of the five boroughs has a borough president but his principal duty is to preside over the various local boards in his borough.

Resolutions of Farmer's Alliance.

Progressive Farmer.] The State Executive Committee of the Farmers' Alliance adopted the following resolutions at Hillsboro, N. C., Dec. 31, 1897: WHEREAS, We believe the time has come for a union of all persons engaged in the pursuit of agriculture; and

Whereas, we feel assured that the Farmers' Alliance forms the basis of such union and that in its teachings the principles are to be found all that is necessary for the betterment of the condition of the farmer and the prosperity of the whole people; and

Whereas, we believe that it is only by organization that we can succeed in breaking up the monopolies, combining and trusts that are grinding the face of the laboring man and producer; therefore we do hereby

Resolved, by the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance, in session at Hillsboro, N. C., that we will make the effort to build up and extend the usefulness of the Alliance as a great brotherhood, discouraging as much as possible all partisan prejudice and inviting all persons who are entitled to membership to join in said efforts to build up a farmers' organization and approve the power for good to our common country.

2. That we know no partisan feeling in our Order, and that our motto is equal rights to all men and special privileges to none; and we adhere to, re-affirming our belief in union in all matters essential to the prosperity and happiness of the masses.

B. B. Lassiter of Gatesville writes the People's Party, and approve the stand of Senator Butler and Governor Russell and hope they will continue on the same line.

quin Valley, the great grape-growing region of California, the annual rainfall is but seven inches, and from May to September only about six-tenths of an inch falls, yet the vines flourish throughout the season. It is true they are irrigated by canals, but the moisture is absorbed and transmitted by the soils. There is no surface application of water. In Southern California the winter rainfall is about 16 inches, the summer rainfall less than an inch, and, without irrigation, tobacco and other crops grow luxuriantly. At Chico, in this district, sugar beets which require a great amount of moisture, grow favorably. The surface soil dries out in the summer forming a dry crust, or mulch, which seems to protect the soil beneath. In the territory about Walls Walls and Pallman, termed the Palous district, the annual rainfall varies from 10 to 20 inches, of which from 1 to 10 inches fall during the season of the growing crops yet, owing to the wonderful power of the soil to retain water and supply it to the crops, a drought of months is less injurious there than one of the same number of weeks in the East, where the annual rainfall is about forty inches.

A Riddle to Scientists.

In North Dakota is the difference of the soils about Bismarck, when contrasted with those about Fargo and Jamestown, where the crops depend upon timely rainfall, renders the crops about Bismarck very uncertain, while those of Fargo and Jamestown seldom fail. In the Mojave and Nevada deserts the annual rainfall averages about five inches, but beneath the alkali crusts the soil is always moist, a fact which the scientists have as yet been unable to explain. In fact, little is yet known of the power of the soils to hold water. As artesian wells show water in all these districts from 40 to 200 feet below the surface, it is considered possible that there is a slow and continuous movement of water upward from the soils and staple crops, and in its relation to the future of the country, when crops must be produced under the intensified system of agriculture, which must come to our farmers in a few years, it promises to be of the utmost economic and practical value. Its practical utility will be the determination of the normal water contents of the different soils in various portions of the country, their capacity for the absorption and retention of moisture with the amount of moisture required by different crops, together with methods for ascertaining the point where lack of moisture would endanger crops and the most feasible methods of irrigation. Thus far the investigation has covered only truck soils in the East, tobacco soils, and an investigation of Western soils.

The use of electricity for determining the moisture of the earth has been quite extensive in the east and produced satisfactory results. The principle made use of is the resistance offered by the earth at different depths to the passage of an alternating current of electricity. If the earth is absolutely dry, of course the resistance would be too great for the passage of the current. As the moisture increases, water being a perfect conductor, the resistance decreases. In truck farming and garden work where cultivation is extensive, it is believed that these electrodes, which require but two or three ordinary cells for their operation, can be used with great profit by those who are at all scientific in their methods.

La Grippe Every Winter.

An Important Letter from Hon. Josiah B. Allen, of the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Prominent Citizens of Different States Speak of the Merits of Pe-ru-na.



Hon. JOSIAH B. ALLEN.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, April 16, 1897.

The Pe-ru-na Drug Mfg. Co.

Gentlemen:—I have been afflicted with a disease commonly known as la grippe, every winter since that disease was discovered. I have tried many remedies without success. This spring I was induced to try a bottle of Pe-ru-na. I have now taken two bottles and have received much benefit therefrom. In fact, all symptoms of the disease seem to have left me. Therefore, I cheerfully recommend the virtues of Pe-ru-na.

Yours truly, JOSIAH B. ALLEN.

CATARRH TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.



Mr. John O. Atkinson.

71 Jefferson Avenue, Freeport, Ill.

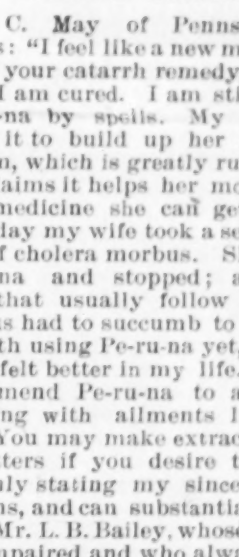
AGGRAVATED CATARRH.



Mr. G. W. Shields.

McKinney, Tex.

SYSTEMIC CATARRH.



Mr. N. C. May.

Oak Ridge Station, Pa.

I feel it my duty to suffering humanity to say a good word for Pe-ru-na and Man-a-lin. I wrote you about my case of catarrh, which was of twenty-five years' standing, and at times I was almost past going. I commenced to use Pe-ru-na according to your instructions and continued its use for about a year, and it has completely cured me. I have to say that your remedies do all you claim for them, and even more. Catarrh can't exist where Pe-ru-na is taken according to directions. Man-a-lin is a most wonderful remedy for chronic constipation.

PELVIC CATARRH.



Mrs. John O. Atkinson.

You will perhaps remember my writing you from Freeport, Ill., in June, July and August, 1895, in reference to my wife's health, who has been suffering from a complication of diseases for the past twenty-five years. Her case had baffled the skill of some of the most noted physicians. One of her worst troubles was chronic constipation of several years' standing. She also suffered with general debility and paroxysms—sometimes as often as six or eight times a day. At this time she was passing through that most critical of periods in the life of woman—change of life. Late in June, 1895, I wrote to you about her case. You advised a course of Pe-ru-na and Man-a-lin, which we at once commenced and have to say it completely cured her. She firmly believes that she would have been dead only for these wonderful remedies.

JNO. O. ATKINSON.

EPIDEMIC CATARRH (LA GRIPPE).



Mr. Aug. Tryloff.

Mt. Clemens, Mich.

I will let you know what I think of Pe-ru-na. Two years ago I had la grippe and it left me with a dreadful cough. The physician could not cure me. I tried all medicine before I took any Pe-ru-na, but it did me no good. I took some Pe-ru-na—about five or six bottles. It did me more good than all the rest put together.

Aug. Tryloff.



Dr. Hartman.

Dr. Hartman treats many thousands of cases of catarrh in all forms, and stages by correspondence. Applications for treatment come in from every part of the United States. Every case is considered separately and prescribed with reference to the peculiar symptoms presented. All letters are strictly confidential. This correspondence is carried on absolutely free of charge. The Doctor's principle remedy for catarrh is Pe-ru-na, the well-known catarrh remedy—Pe-ru-na. In the vast majority of cases, this is the only remedy necessary. When anything else is found necessary it is merely to move some complication or hinderance or to correct some harmful practice. Most people prefer, however, to buy Pe-ru-na at the drug store for themselves, and, by the aid of the directions on the bottle and Dr. Hartman's free pamphlets, conduct their own treatment. Thousands of letters are received from people who have cured themselves in this way. Pe-ru-na cures catarrh wherever located, whether of the head, nose, throat, bowels, stomach or pelvic organs. The Doctor's last course of lectures at the Surgical Hotel are being published in a volume entitled "Winter Catarrh." This book will be sent free to any address by The Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company, Columbus, Ohio.

Cancer of the Breast.

Mr. A. H. Crausby, of 158 Kerr St., Memphis, Tenn., says that his wife paid no attention to a small lump which appeared in her breast, but it soon developed into a cancer of the worst type, and notwithstanding the treatment of the best physicians, it continued to spread and grow rapidly, eating two holes in her breast. The doctors soon pronounced her incurable. A celebrated New York specialist, who had been called in, but she continued to grow worse and when informed that both her aunt and grandmother had died from cancer he gave the case up as hopeless.

Someone then recommended S.S.S. and though little hope remained, she began to feel an improvement was noticed. The cancer commenced to heal and when she had taken several bottles it disappeared entirely, although several years had elapsed, not a sign of the disease has ever returned.

A Real Blood Remedy.

S.S.S. (Guaranteed purely vegetable) is a real blood remedy, and never fails to cure Cancer, Eczema, Rheumatism, Scrofula, or any other blood disease.

Our books will be mailed free to any address. Write to S.S.S. Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Four stores were burglarized in one night in Durham: in one store the robbers secured about \$200 worth of goods but in the others not much was taken as nothing of value could be found.

It seems that the cotton mills are bound to come South, where the cotton fields are, as it is appearing now more and more clearly every day.

